

REMARKS

Applicants have added claims 33-37. Support for these claims can be found in the examples as filed and claims 28-29 as filed. Applicants have cancelled claims 7-8 and 30-32. No new matter is added.

Election/Restrictions

The Examiner contends that this application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. The Examiner has requested applicants to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-28, drawn to a prodrug of a hydroxamic acid derivative histone deacetylase inhibitor and a pharmaceutical composition using the compound of formula (I).

Group II, claim(s) 29, drawn to a use claim using the prodrug of formula I for the treatment of cancer.

Group III, claim(s) 30, drawn to a use claim using the prodrug of formula I for the treatment of a thioredoxin-mediated disease.

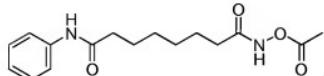
Group IV, claim(s) 31, drawn to a use claim using the prodrug of formula I for the treatment of a disease of the central nervous system.

Group V, claim(s) 32, drawn to a use claim using the prodrug of formula I for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a tumor.

The Examiner has also required Applicants to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

The Examiner also states that where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from will be considered for rejoinder.

Applicants elect Group 1 (claims 1-6, 9-28, 33-37) without traverse. Applicants elect



as the species. Claims 1-6, 28, 33, 34, and 36-37 read on the

species. Applicants also request upon allowance of the product claims, the Examiner considers (Group II, claims 29 and 37) for rejoinder.

If a telephonic communication with the Applicants' representative will advance the prosecution of the instant application, please telephone the representative indicated below. Applicants believe no additional fees are due but the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required in connection with this amendment to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

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